

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

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TOSEC 95

FOLLOWING REPEAT UNINFO 111825Z FEB 75 SENT ACTION SECSTATE OPS CENTER

AND INFO WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

QUOTE:

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STATE OPS CENTER FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY TO DAVID GOMPERT
FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

SECRETARY'S MIDDLE EAST TRIP -II (TAKE ONE OF THREE)

FOLLOWING IS A REPORT OF FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION AS OF
NOON EST FEBRUARY 11, PREPARED BY USIA:

SUMMARY: CAIRO'S AL-AHRAM ON TUESDAY CITED THE LIKUD PARTY
AS SAYING GENEVA "IS THE BEST FRAMEWORK FOR A PEACE SETTLE-
MENT." THREE CAIRO PAPERS MAINTAINED THAT THE ISRAELI "CABINET
SPLIT" WAS FABRICATED TO OBSTRUCT DR. KISSINGER'S MISSION.
THE JERUSALEM POST SAID ISRAEL FEARED ITS SACRIFICES MIGHT MAKE
FOR A PARTIAL SETTLEMENT WHICH "WOULD BE DISSIPATED WITHIN A
SHORT TIME AS THE RESULT OF RECONVENING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE..."
WEST EUROPEAN COMMENTATORS REPORTED INDICATIONS THAT ISRAEL WAS
TAKING A STRONG STAND AGAINST CONCESSIONS. END SUMMARY.

CAIRO:

ALL PAPERS LED TUESDAY WITH SADAT'S LONDON TIMES INTERVIEW.
THEY ALL QUOTED DR. KISSINGER'S ARRIVAL STATEMENT IN TEL
AVIV THAT HE WAS CARRYING IDEAS FROM EGYPT AND ISRAEL ON ACHIEVING
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A PEACE SETTLEMENT, "BUT DOES NOT HAVE DEFINITE PROPOSALS."

AL-AHRAM CITED THE LIKUD VIEW THAT GENEVA "IS THE BEST FRAMEWORK FOR A PEACE SETTLEMENT."

IN AN EDITORIAL, THE PAPER SAID WITHDRAWAL MEASURES SHOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED SEPARATELY FROM THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, WHICH OUGHT TO BE HELD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE PAPER'S MANAGING EDITOR AND EDITORIALS IN AL-AKHBAR AND AL-GOMHURIYA MAINTAINED THAT THE ISRAELI CABINET SPLIT WAS FABRICATED TO OBSTRUCT KISSINGER'S MISSION.

A COLUMNIST IN AL-AHRAM SAID THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IS TO DECIDE WHICH PART OF PALESTINE ISRAEL WILL REPRESENT AND WHICH PART THE PLO WILL REPRESENT; HE ADOPTED THE FRENCH VIEW THAT INTERNATIONALLY GUARANTEED BORDERS MUST EXIST IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A JUST PEACE WHICH UPHOLDS THE LEGITIMATE RIGHTS OF BOTH PARTIES.

A COMMENTATOR ON CAIRO RADIO'S VOICE OF THE ARABS ON MONDAY POSED QUESTIONS WHICH IT SAID WERE NOT EASY BUT WERE "A POINTER TO THE KIND OF ANSWER THAT CAN BROADEN THE PROSPECTS OF PEACE." THESE WERE HIS QUESTIONS: "HAS AMERICA PREPARED FOR THIS VISIT TO ISRAEL IN A (SEROUS?) MANNER, ESPECIALLY AS ISRAEL'S REJECTION OF WITHDRAWAL IS THE MAIN OBSTACLE IN THE PATH OF PEACE? HAS AMERICA TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION THE FACT THAT THE RETURN OF THE STATE OF NO WAR, NO PEACE IS IMPOSSIBLE? DOES DR. HENRY KISSINGER REALIZE THAT THIS MAY BE HIS LAST CHANCE TO AVOID A NEW EXPLOSION OF THE WHOLE SITUATION? IS THE DIFFERENCE NOW CLEAR BETWEEN STEPS OF MORE DISENGAGEMENT AND ANY POLITICAL AGREEMENT? HAS THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM NOW TAKEN ITS PLACE AND WEIGHT IN AMERICAN POLITICAL EVALUATION? DO THE ADVOCATES OF PEACE NOW REALIZE THAT PEACE CANNOT BE ACHIEVED THROUGH INDIVIDUAL EFFORTS, BUT ONLY THROUGH COLLECTIVE ONES, AND THAT ALL ARAB COUNTRIES SHOULD BE PARTNERS ON AN EQUAL FOOTING..."

CAIRO DOMESTIC RADIO'S VERSION OF SADAT'S LONDON TIMES INTERVIEW INCLUDED A PASSAGE SAYING HE REMARKED THAT "MR. BREZHNEV MAY POSTPONE THE DATE OF HIS VISIT TO EGYPT UNTIL AFTER HIS VISIT TO THE U.S. THIS SUMMER. HOWEVER, BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO EGYPT WILL MOST PROBABLY TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE CONCLUSION OF A FINAL AGREEMENT FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CRISIS."

TEL AVIV:

A BYLINER WROTE TODAY IN INDEPENDENT HAARETZ THAT "KISSINGER HOPES TO MODERATE THE ISRAELI POSITION....HE IS NOT ATTACHING GREAT IMPORTANCE TO ISRAEL'S DEMAND FOR A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD OF NON-BELLIGERENCY..." HE NOTED THAT "THE ISRAELI TEAM SAYS THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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WHETHER AN INTERIM ARRANGEMENT IS PART OF GENEVA OR REPLACES GENEVA CAN BE DEBATED..."

A WRITER FOR PRO-GOVERNMENT JERUSALEM POST

STERED ISRAELI

CONCERN OVER WHETHER OR NOT THE "SACRIFICES" ISRAEL MAY MAKE "FOR A PARTIAL SETTLEMENT WOULD BE DISSIPATED WITHIN A SHORT TIME AS A RESULT OF RECONVENING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, WHERE OVERALL

SETTLEMENTS WOULD BE NEGOTIATED WITH THE ARAB STATES."

A BYLINER FOR SEMIOFFICIAL DAVAR STATED THAT "ISRAEL WILL SEEK THE GOOD OFFICES OF DR. KISSINGER TO ATTAIN ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATIONS ON THE ASSUMPTION THAN AN INTERIM ARRANGEMENT CONTAINS A SUBSTANTIVE STEP TOWARDS PEACE" BUT THAT ISRAEL WOULD WANT TO KNOW THE RELATIONSHIP OF SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT TO THE "GENEVA TALKS THAT WILL BE RESUMED LATER..."

PRO-GOVERNMENT AL HAMISHMAR REPORTED IT HAD LEARNED FROM "OBSERVERS IN JERUSALEM" THAT "ELEMENTS OF NON-BELLIGERENCY WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE AGREEMENT WITHOUT EXPLICIT REFERENCE TO THE PHRASE ITSELF" BUT THAT "ISRAEL DOES NOT WANT TO CREATE OBSTACLES ...IF IT IS POSSIBLE TO CIRCUMVENT THEM..."

A WRITER FOR INDEPENDENT MAARIV SAID THAT THE SECRETARY "MIGHT SEEK TO PERSUADE ISRAEL TO CONSIDER 'LIMITED EGYPTIAN CONCESSIONS' IN VIEW OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PRESSURES BEARING ON SADAT...KISSINGER'S INTENTION IS TO ENCOURAGE A PROCESS OF EGYPTIAN DISENGAGEMENT FROM SOVIET INFLUENCE AND TO SEEK AN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD GIVE BOTH PARTIES A RELATIVELY LONG PERIOD OF QUIET..."

HE WROTE THAT WHILE "KISSINGER WILL SEEK TO STRESS THAT ISRAEL WILL NOT FALL VICTIM TO U.S. POLICY AND THAT ISRAEL'S LONG-TERM SECURITY WOULD BE GUARANTEED...ISRAEL SHOULD REALIZE THAT SUPERPOWER RIVALRY REQUIRES CAUTIOUS BEHAVIOR TO PREVENT THE SOVIETS FROM EXPLOITING THE INTER-ARAB CONFLICT AND UPSETTING THE PROCESS OF ACHIEVING PEACE..."

INDEPENDENT HAARETZ EDITORIALIZED THAT "AN ARRANGEMENT IN STAGES IS WORTH SUPPORTING...IF THE POINT WHERE THE LAST STAGE ENDS IS ACCEPTABLE TO ISRAEL" BUT "KISSINGER SHOULD BE REMINDED THAT NO MAJORITY IN THE CABINET OR KNESSET WILL SUPPORT A ONE-ISDED AGREEMENT..."

JERUSALEM RADIO REPORTED A MOSCOW BROADCAST STATING THAT THE SOVIET UNION "DOES NOT REJECT KISSINGER'S POLICY OF PEACE BY STAGES PROVIDED IT LEADS TO AN OVERALL MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT."
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(THIS STORY HAD NOT YET BEEN CONFIRMED FROM MOSCOW SOURCES.)
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